



**Probud Association of W.A. Inc.**

Patron: His Excellency the Honourable Chris Dawson ACAPM  
Governor of Western Australia



# **NEWS & NOTES**

THE VOICE OF PROBUD CLUBS IN THE WEST

## **WELCOME TO THE OCTOBER 2023 EDITION of NEWS and NOTES**

*This newsletter is private & confidential, for Probud use only and not to be used for any other purpose.*



It has come to that time of year that our Clubs need to start thinking about who will be on the Management Committee of their Club in 2024. Club members getting involved in the Management Committee is crucial for the sustained success and vitality of any organisation. All too often it's tempting to rely on the same dedicated individuals year after year, it's essential to recognise that new faces and fresh ideas are essential for growth and preventing stagnation.

It is important to remember that under WA law, Probud clubs must have a President, Vice President, Secretary, and Treasurer. Without these key roles, the club cannot legally operate. Of course, there are other roles on a Committee which are important, but these are optional for Clubs.

The adage "many hands make light work" holds true here; a diverse and engaged committee can bring innovative perspectives and enthusiasm, which can breathe new life into the club's activities.

As we enter our retirement years, we may prefer to step back from leadership and management roles, commitment to the club remains strong. We're content to let others take up the mantle of responsibility and guide the organisation forward.

**However, for the club to thrive, it's imperative that everyone contributes in some way. Even if it's a small role or a short-term commitment, each member's involvement adds to the collective effort that sustains the club's vibrancy.**

A club that relies solely on a few dedicated individuals risks burnout and limited growth. To ensure the club continues to prosper and evolve, we encourage all members to step up, share their talents, and help chart the course for a bright and exciting future. Together, we can ensure that our club remains a vibrant and worthwhile community for years to come.

**PAWA is available to provide education and advice to prospective office bearers in clubs. PAWA will be undertaking four (4) information sessions in February to help demystify the Committee roles and make members aware that the roles are not as complex and time consuming as members might think. These sessions are open to all Club members who might be considering taking on a Committee role in their Club but want to know more about what is actually involved.**

## Are you curious about what's actually involved in being on your Clubs Management Committee?



- ◆ How complex are the roles on the Committee?
- ◆ How much time do I need to spend?
- ◆ What do I need to learn/know?

PAWA will be holding four Q&A Forums in February to help you answer some of the questions you might have. One will be in Bunbury and the other 3 in the metropolitan area (north, south and Central).

These are open to all members of Probus Clubs who just want to get information to help decide if they are willing to stand for Management Committee positions before their Club's AGM.

### HAPPY ANNIVERSARY TO CLUBS CELEBRATING IN OCTOBER

Yanchep Two Rocks Probus Club Inc.	7 Years
Baldivis Probus Club Inc.	8 Years
Combined Probus Club of Winthrop Inc.	10 Years
The Probus Club of Bannister Creek inc.	24 Years
The Combined Probus Club of Attadale Inc.	25 Years
The Ladies Probus Club of Booragoon WA Inc.	36 Years
Rossmoyne Probus Club WA Inc.	38 Years
The Probus Club of Kalamunda Inc.	40 Years
Probus Club of Attadale Inc.	41 Years



The Ladies Probus Club of Booragoon will be celebrating their 36-year anniversary with lunch at Tompkins Cafe on the Swan. They will have a lovely cake for morning tea and will be inducting two new members.

### **SENIORS WEEK. "Have a Go Day"**

**Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup> November**

Have a Go Day, a LiveLighter event, has been run by Seniors Recreation Council since its inception in 1992. The event is the largest single event specifically targeted at the over 55's demographic. A mix of over 200 static sites and activities makes this event unique to Western Australia, held in the beautiful grounds of Burswood Park for the last 30 years. It is designed to make seniors aware of the importance of exercise, socialisation and both physical and mental activity.

## IF THERE IS A WILL, THERE IS A WAY



As with many of our Clubs, nine months ago the **Combined Probus Club of Mosman Park** was faced with having to make the tough choice to fold due to lack of office bearers. Many members were ageing, and others had held roles in the Club for many terms. Despite this, there was a very strong desire to keep the Club going because they wanted to stay together. Two of the PAWA Committee members had visited the Club previously to offer creative and informative tips on how the Club might resolve the problem of attracting officers.

At the AGM, after much discussion, foundation member Carol Kennedy was willing to put forward her nomination as Secretary and this was accepted. So now the Club has a Secretary. Then, to save the Club, a last-minute nomination was put forward for Robert Doney, another long-term member, as President. Robert then agreed to stand provided that Bernard Kessell be nominated as Vice President. Bernard was recently retired and had little background in the Club's traditions.

Now the Club has a President, Secretary and Vice President. After some further cajoling, Bernard's wife Sandra decided (with some trepidation) to take on the role of Treasurer. So finally, from a legal standpoint, the Club had the necessary officers to continue operation for the following year.

Having overcome this major hurdle, the Club recognised that it also needed to attract new and younger members so that the Club could continue to be viable into the future. The President's wife, Lyn Doney took it upon herself to devise a plan to promote the Club in October - Probus month.

The plan was to hold an Open Day during Probus month and an enthusiastic and committed committee was set up and, with Lyn's drive and energy and ideas, a promotional plan was developed. With a number of members' involvement, the promotions were devised and set into place. With publicity in the local Post newspaper, word of mouth, notices on community notice boards, distribution of pamphlets and flyers by members and use of the City of Mosman Park notice boards, the word soon spread within the community.

*Finally, at the big event on 4<sup>th</sup> October, 25 new prospective members attended the Open Day meeting. Unfortunately, some 10 others were refused due to the RSVP date and catering reasons. However, these people will be followed up and invited to the Club's next meeting.*

**Goes to show what a committed and enthusiastic group of members can accomplish!**

**The simple formula is: Open Day + wide publicity + enthusiastic team = Success**





## PSPL REVIEW OF STANDARD PROBUS CLUB CONSTITUTION

Recently, Probud Club management will have received advice from PSPL about proposed changes to the standard Probud Club Constitution. A review of the Constitution has been ongoing for some time.



When a Probud Club is formed, it adopts the PSPL Preamble and the 12 Articles of Accreditation, which together comprise the standard Probud Club Model Constitution that complies with the legislative requirements for their particular State/Territory.

In the current Incorporated Models, the Preamble and Articles of Accreditation are represented in ***bold and italic typeface*** and are the same for all Probud Clubs across Australia.

The first stage of the PSPL review is to seek feedback from Clubs about proposed changes to the Preamble and Articles of Accreditation. This is what has been sent out to WA Clubs so far.

**It should be noted that the document that Clubs have received does not represent a legally valid Club Constitution under the WA Associations Act.**

Under PSPL's Constitution, changes cannot be made to either the Preamble or the Articles of Accreditation if more than 25% of Clubs object to the proposed change. For this reason, PSPL is providing WA Clubs with ample opportunity to consider the proposed changes.

The period of consultation with Clubs will close on 15 December 2023.

Shortly after the consultation period closes, PSPL proposes to provide Clubs with Model Constitutions and Model Standing Resolutions for both incorporated and unincorporated Clubs. This should provide flexibility for Clubs to manage their internal affairs by way of Standing Resolutions rather than By-laws, which are an outdated concept.

If you need advice, please do not hesitate to contact PAWA ([PAWASecretary@gmail.com](mailto:PAWASecretary@gmail.com))

### NEW SPEAKER- Linda Redman

#### Topic: Perth Zoo "A personal view."



Linda gives a power point presentation of her **personal experiences** at the Perth Zoo. It is in three parts: History of Perth Zoo, Animals and their care, and a short section on the Docent Association.

*"It runs for about an hour, but I could shorten it if given prior notice so I can reorganise the presentation."*

*As this is a PowerPoint presentation, it requires a computer linked to a large TV screen with a remote mouse or someone to change the slides.*

*I am not representing the Zoo or officially connected with it in any way, except for being a volunteer Docent. It is a very Personal View."*

Linda is usually not available on Wednesdays, but the 4<sup>th</sup> Wednesday in the month is a possibility. Linda is a member of the Kalamunda Probud Club.

Email: [lindaredman@iprimus.com.au](mailto:lindaredman@iprimus.com.au)

Ph: 0419924756 (text message please).

**SPEAKER REMOVAL. ROY STALL**

Roy is a volunteer tour guide with the WA Maritime Museum. He will not be able to give presentations after January 2024. We thank Roy for his contribution in the past.

**PROBUS MONTH How are you celebrating?**

"Good friends,  
Great times,  
New adventures"



**SCAM WARNING**

Western Australian seniors are being urged to **be aware of a scam WA Seniors Card website** which attempts to charge applicants a fee in exchange for a Seniors Card.

Seniors should be aware that **the legitimate WA Seniors Card is always free of charge** and applicants are never requested to pay a fee or disclose their bank or credit card details in exchange for membership .

The official WA Seniors Card is [www.seniorcard.wa.gov.au](http://www.seniorcard.wa.gov.au) Applicants should look for the official State crest to ensure they are accessing a trusted and secure website before proceeding with an application for membership.

*Probiants have a variety of reasons for seeking to join a Probus club, foremost among them being to enjoy fun, friendship and fellowship with others. Many of us have formed new, valued and enduring friendships with members of our club.*

This is only possible by members sharing some personal details with others in the club. Indeed, the effective ongoing management of any successful club, be it Probus or some other community group, depends on this occurrence.

The importance of this aspect of a club is recognized in the **ASSOCIATIONS INCORPORATIONS ACT 2015** which requires all clubs to maintain a register of members, including name, date of membership and an address (residential, postal or email). Your secretary is required to keep this information at their home or some other nominated place. Importantly all members are entitled to inspect the register and make a copy or extract.

On applying to join a Probus club prospective members sign a member application form whereby they consent to their names, addresses, telephone number and email address being included in the directory of members. This information is to be distributed to club members only. Some information is provided to PSPL, which manages it in accordance with their **Privacy Policy**.

As you would know, clubs may also publish in their newsletter and/or social media photographs of its members enjoying club activities. This is a great communication mechanism and can facilitate members getting to know one another.

**However, should a member not wish to have their photograph published they can opt out by advising the Secretary in writing that they do not give consent.** A similar provision applies in relation to PSPL publications. This is an important check and balance available to members.

While the **PRIVACY ACT 1988** does not apply to Probus Clubs (as their \$ turnover falls below the threshold of \$3m/year), the management committee have a duty of care to handle members' personal information diligently. Any concerns about the treatment of your personal details should be directed to the club secretary in the first instance.



## Two new Life Members at Kingsley Probus:

### CONGRATULATIONS!



The Club was very pleased to honour the faithful service of two members at a recent meeting, David Gould, and Bill Fogarty.

The photograph shows David and Bill with President Rod Tonkin who presented both with certificates and new LIFE MEMBER badges.

Treasurer Stephen (not shown) detailed the years of service of David and Bill who played important roles in keeping our Club viable and buoyant with a relatively small membership."

**Tim Hodgkins**

## Whitfords Probus Club celebrated their 39<sup>th</sup> Anniversary on the 13<sup>th</sup> of September.

"First Lady" Peg Fitzgerald, who is their longest serving female member, cut the cake with PAWA Vice President, Edna Jones.



President Barry thanked Geoffrey Thomas for his interesting presentation about the Aviation industry.



# South West Get Together

What happens when two excellent organisers get a committee together and suggest organizing the South West Get Together? This decision was made hot on the heels of The Probus Club of Eaton's celebration of its 30<sup>th</sup> birthday in 2022. The result, after 18 months of planning, was a very successful day, which took place on Monday 2 October.

The purpose of the event is to bring clubs together in one venue for fun and friendship. There were a number of clubs present from as far away as Manjimup, Bridgetown, Vasse and Mandurah and as close as the clubs in Bunbury. PAWA President, Ralph Sirmulis, travelled from Joondalup to join us on the day.

In true country style, the day started with a cuppa as our guests arrived.

Soon the room at the Eaton Bowling Club was full and people were renewing or making new acquaintances.



Nola, Mike Reeve and Lesley Malcolm



At close to the appointed start time, our diminutive (in stature) but power packed first guest speaker arrived.

The Honourable Nola Marino, MP for Forrest, entertained us as she showed what a day in her life as a politician entailed.

She certainly keeps to a punishing schedule while managing to maintain strong links in our local community and spend time with her family.

Morning tea was a further chance for conversation over a coffee and muffin. The raffle table did very well as did the lucky dip prizes. There was ample time for people to mix and mingle as well as check out the activity they had signed up for in the afternoon.

*Continued:*



We are fortunate that our next guest speaker, Glenys McDonald, is a member of the Probus Club of Eaton. She gave us a fascinating insight into her determined push to find the HMAS Sydney 11. In spite of it taking some years and enduring some setbacks, it was a successful venture. Glenys was on the vessel which carried out the final search which was the ultimate experience.

At lunch, food was served, raffles were drawn, and groups were organized to set off on the different activities that had been organized. Some went walking along the Collie River while others enjoyed a more leisurely boat ride. One group visited a local garden and another a wood gallery. There were others who stayed behind to play bowls, cards or Mahjong and some just sat and chatted.

### John Standley



Once we were all back at the venue, we were entertained for the last 30 minutes by the singing of John Standley, a young local lad who often performs at the Eaton Bowling Club.

He had the rapt attention of the audience as he sang several big ballads and everyone's favourite, Sweet Caroline.

Look out for him on Telethon as he will be performing there too.

All too soon the day was over, and we were saying our goodbyes. We are hoping that another club will take up the challenge to run the next South West Get Together in a year or two.

### Ralph, Moira and Visitors



#### What did the event achieve?

- In our own club, the willingness to volunteer to help in practical ways that ensured the day's success.
- In all clubs the opportunity to chat about what was happening in their own clubs and share ideas; for many, the chance to catch up with old friends from other towns.
- The focus on fun, friendship, fellowship (and food) is what Probus is all about.

Judging by the comments made by people at the end of the day, we definitely succeeded in achieving these aims.

**Moira Macpherson**  
**President**  
**Probus Club of Eaton**



## Peter Olney - PSPL Board Representative in WA

Many of you I have met and visited in my role as President of Probus Association of Western Australia (PAWA). This time I write to you in my new role as your PSPL Board Representative Member and Director for Probus Clubs in Western Australia. I thank my predecessor in this position, Graeme Brown for his work and commitment to Probus.

I am a proud member of the Ellenbrook Combined Probus Club Inc over 5 years and was also a member of the Asquith Mixed Probus Club (Sydney) and have filled numerous positions on the Management Committee, including the role of President, so I certainly understand the volunteer role of the Management Committee and the increasing challenges that Clubs face.

I joined the PSPL Board at its Annual General Meeting (AGM) in August this year. Shortly after the AGM, the following Directors were elected as Office Bearers for 2023-2024:

- Michael Ransom from the Probus Club of Mitcham Nunawading Inc and Representative Member/Director for VIC/TAS, elected Chairman of the PSPL Board.
- David Malone from the Combined Probus Club of Meadowbank Inc and Representative Member/Director for NSW/ACT, elected Vice Chairman of the PSPL Board; and
- Board-appointed Director David Ekert from the Probus Club of Cornubia Inc was elected Treasurer.

At the AGM, we also welcomed Margaret Drake of the Combined Probus Club of Rolleston as the Representative Member/Director for New Zealand.

Past Chairman Judith Maestracci AM is continuing as the PSPL Board as the Representative Member/Director for Queensland and Immediate Past Chairman, along with Directors John Hall, Merv Richens, and Peter Turner. Further information about the Board of Directors can be found at [https://www.probussouthpacific.org/pages/about\\_probus\\_board\\_of\\_directors](https://www.probussouthpacific.org/pages/about_probus_board_of_directors).

**One of PSPL's key objectives is to help Clubs attract new members and to establish new Clubs so that as many retirees as possible can experience the community and companionship that Probus has to offer.**

On the first of October, we began our **Probus Month** celebrations in line with the United Nations Day of the Older Person. Probus Day started in 2020 and has been so successful that it has become **Probus Month**.

Throughout the month of October, Clubs across Australia and New Zealand will be celebrating with special morning teas, picnics, lunches, themed meetings, landmark visits and so much more. **Probus Month** is not just about celebrating our community as it also presents an ideal opportunity to promote your Club through its celebration and of course, utilise the range of complimentary promotional material available from PSPL.

No matter how you choose to celebrate **Probus Month**, I am sure it will be special.

Finally, I would like to say that I truly believe that Probus Clubs provide an invaluable contribution to their local communities. As a volunteer member of your Club's leadership team, you play a key role, not only in the future of your Club, but in helping members stay engaged and connected. I take this opportunity to thank you for all your effort.

I look forward to representing all Probus Members in Australia and New Zealand on the Board of Probus South Pacific Limited and the 92 Clubs in Western Australia.

Please contact me directly or the Probus Team if we can be of any assistance.

Yours in Probus friendship,

**Peter Olney, Representative Member and Director for Western Australia**

**E:** [peterolney@probussouthpacific.org](mailto:peterolney@probussouthpacific.org)



# South Australia is calling in 2024

## Kangaroo Island Adventures

Escape to ruggedly beautiful Kangaroo Island. Australia's third largest island offers an abundance of wildlife encounters and nature-based experiences.

**6 DAYS > 21 to 26 February 2024**

### Highlights

- Horse-drawn tram ride
- Granite Island
- Seal Bay
- The Raptor Domain
- Flinders Chase National Park
- Remarkable Rocks & Admirals Arch
- Emu Bay Lavender
- Kangaroo Island Honey Farm
- Kangaroo Island Eucalyptus Oil Distillery
- Scenic touring, Kangaroo Island

### Inclusions

- Pre/post tour transfers (ex Perth, WA)
- Airfares & taxes (ex Perth, WA)
- 12 meals
- 5 nights' accommodation
- Tours & attractions
- Professional Villa Tour Leader



## South Australian Splendour

The splendours of South Australia combine on this tour to deliver one fabulous South Australian holiday experience.

**10 DAYS > 11 to 20 May 2024**

### Highlights

- Adelaide Central Markets
- Victor Harbor
- Clydesdale horse-drawn tram ride
- Coorong cruise
- Kangaroo Island produce
- Kangaroo Island sea lions
- Flinders Chase National Park
- Cape du Couedic Lighthouse, Remarkable Rocks & the Admirals Arch
- Free time at Kangaroo Island
- Three-night PS Murray Princess cruise
- Hahndorf

### Inclusions

- Pre/post tour transfers (ex Perth, WA)
- Airfares & taxes (ex Perth, WA)
- 21 meals
- 9 nights' accommodation
- Tours & attractions
- Professional Villa Tour Leader



For more interstate holiday inspiration, look out for our new 2023 Spring Update Holiday magazine - hitting mailboxes soon!

### YOUR FULLY INCLUSIVE, ESCORTED TOUR INCLUDES



#### Transfers

Courtesy pre and post home/hotel transfers (Perth/Mandurah metropolitan areas)  
A country collection service is also available



#### Transport



#### Accommodation



#### Meals



#### Attractions



#### Tour Leaders



#### Local Guides

Terms and conditions: All Villa tours are fully escorted, depart from Perth and tour prices include courtesy home collection (Perth and Mandurah metro only), most meals and attractions. Tours are subject to change. Full terms and conditions can be found on [villa.com.au](http://villa.com.au) or ask us to send them when you call.

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# PAWA

*The Voice of  
WA Probus Clubs*

*Come along to a committee  
meeting and give us your ideas to  
ensure that PAWA is an effective  
voice of WA Probus Clubs.*

*Contact Secretary Pauline Dunning for an  
invitation to attend.*

*[pawasecretary@gmail.com](mailto:pawasecretary@gmail.com)*

**We meet on the 1st Thursday of every  
second month at the  
Piney Lakes Environmental Education  
Centre,  
555 Leach Highway Winthrop  
10am-1230pm**

***From January 2024,  
PAWA will meet at the  
Kulungah-Myah Community Centre  
136 Le Souef Drive, Kardinya.  
10am-1230pm.***

***NB: On alternative months, PAWA meets via  
Zoom.***

***Website: [probuswa.wordpress.com](http://probuswa.wordpress.com)***